

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 CIAE-00 PM-05 INR-07 L-03  
ACDA-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06  
TRSE-00 H-01 NSC-05 OMB-01 /067 W  
-----086148 041752Z /46

P 041250Z AUG 77

FM AMCONSUL MUNICH  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8847  
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY  
AMCONSL BREMEN  
AMCONSUL DUSSELDORF  
AMCONSUL FRANKFURT  
AMCONSUL HAMBURG  
AMCONSUL STUTTGART  
USMISSION USBERLIN  
USMISSION USNATO PRIORITY  
CINCUSAREUR PRIORITY  
DOD WASHDC PRIORITY

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CINCUSAREUR ALSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, MARR, GW, NATO

SUBJECT: MINISTER-PRESIDENT GOPPEL DISTURBED BY EVANS &  
NOVAK COLUMN ON DEFENSE OF WESTERN EUROPE

1. BAVARIAN MINISTER-PRESIDENT ALFONS GOPPEL IS QUITE DISTURBED ABOUT THE IMPLICATIONS FOR BAVARIA OF THE ARTICLE BY SYNDICATED COLUMNISTS EVANS & NOVAK WHICH ALLEGES THAT US WILL CONCEDE ONE THIRD OF FRG TO A SOVIET INVASION RATHER THAN SEEK TO INCREASE US DEFENSE SPENDING.

2. GOPPEL'S CHIEF CONCERN IS THAT THE INHABITANTS OF BAVARIA,  
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WHO HAVE LEARNED OF CONTENTS OF EVANS AND NOVAK ARTICLE FROM GERMAN MEDIA, MAY BE SEIZED BY FEELING OF INSECURITY ABOUT WILL OF US AND OTHER NATO ALLIES TO DEFEND BAVARIA AT ITS EASTERN BORDERS. HE FORESEES A DANGER THAT "LEFTIST" ELEMENTS IN FRG WHO HAVE LONG PROMOTED THE IDEA THAT IT IS "BETTER TO BE READ THAN DEAD," WILL USE THE EVANS & NOVAK COLUMN IN SUPPORT OF THEIR POLITICAL LINE.

3. GOPPEL EXPRESSED HIS CONCERN BY CALLING LONG-TIME US FORCES LIAISON OFFICER FOR BAVARIA (USFLO) MANNING TO STATE CHANCERY THIS MORNING TO DISCUSS THE EVANS AND NOVAK ARTICLE. THE USFLO ASSURED GOPPEL THAT US COMMITMENT TO THE FORWARD DEFENSE STRATEGY WORKED OUT IN NATO REMAINED UNALTERED. HE ALSO EMPHASIZED POINT THAT US WOULD HARDLY SACRIFICE THE LIVES OF US TROOPS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS WHO ARE STATIONED IN AREAS WITHIN THE ONE THIRD OF GERMANY WHICH EVANS AND NOVAK ALLEGE US WOULD CONCEDE.

4. I SAW GOPPEL BRIEFLY FOLLOWING LATTER'S MEETING WITH USFLO. I HANDED HIM COPY OF AUGUST 3 WIRELESS FILE ITEM (EUR 34) CITING STATEMENTS MADE BY WHITE HOUSE SPOKESMAN POWELL, DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN TRATTNER AND SECRETARY OF DEFENSE BROWN.

5. FOLLOWING MEETING WITH GOPPEL, I SPOKE WITH DR. SCHWAABE, HEAD OF STATE CHANCERY'S PRESS OFFICE, EMPHASIZING HE IMPORTANCE ONE SHOULD ATTACH TO THESE THREE STATEMENTS. SCHWAABE INDICATED THAT THE MINISTER-PRESIDENT PLANNED TO ISSUE PRESS RELEASE INDICATING THAT NATO POLICY OF FORWARD DEFENSE REMAINED INTACT. RELEASE WILL CITE STATEMENT BY POWELL (NOTING THAT IT WAS DELIVERED TO MINISTER-PRESIDENT BY CONGEN), AND MINISTERA PRESIDENT'S CONVERSATION WITH USFLO. RELEASE WILL ALSO NOTE THAT USFLO HAS SPOKEN WITH GENERAL BLANCHARD (CINCUSAREUR), WHO CONFIRMED WHAT USFLO HAD TOLD MINISTER-LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PRESIDENT. (N.B. USFLO DID, IN FACT, SPEAK TO GENERAL BLANCHARD ON HIS RETURN FROM THE STATE CHANCERY).

6. COMMENT. OVER ONE HALF OF POPULATION OF BAVARIA LIVES IN THE ONE THRID OF FRG WHICH, ACCORDING TO EVANS AND NOVAK, US WOULD BE WILLING TO CONCEDE TO A SOVIET INVADER. GOPPEL'S CONCERN IS, THEREFORE, UNDERSTANDABLE AND GENUINE.

7. RECOMMENDATION: THAT CONGEN BE SENT INFO COPY OF ANY TELEGRAPHIC MESSAGES DEALING WITH STATEMMMENTS TO PRESS ON THIS SUBJECT.

8. USFLO REPORTING VIA HIS OWN CHANNELS.GILMORE

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESIDENT  
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**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Page Count:** 2  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Subject:** MINISTER-PRESIDENT GOPPEL DISTURBED BY EVANS & NOVAK COLUMN ON DEFENSE OF WESTERN EUROPE  
**TAGS:** PINT, MARR, GE, NATO  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
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